

## News & Notes from NDSEB

### \* MASTER ELECTRICIANS APPLYING FOR CONTRACTING STATUS

There appears to be some confusion when a Master electrician decides to pursue electrical contracting in North Dakota. This article will hopefully clear up some of that confusion, and further information can be found on our website at: <https://www.ndseb.com/licensing/electrical-contractor-guidelines-requirements/>.

The first step and before contractor orientation is scheduled with the NDSEB office, you must contact the Secretary of State (SOS). To operate or engage in electrical contracting in the State of North Dakota, the individual or company represented will be required to file any proper paperwork with the SOS. This may include providing verification of the filing of a trade name and/or business registration, AND a contractor license.

—**Trade Name Registration:** If doing business as a sole proprietor: A sole proprietor using a name other than the individual's first and surname to transact business must have the name registered as a trade name;

and/or

—**Certificate of Business Registration:** If doing business as a business entity (not a sole proprietor): The business must be registered as a partnership, limited liability company, or corporation.

—**Contractor License:** If it is anticipated that work will be performed which exceeds \$4,000 per job, the sole proprietor or business must obtain a contractor license.

\*\* Note: The confusion appears to stem from the requirement of a

“business” contractor’s license with the SOS and an “individual/master” contractor’s license with the North Dakota State Electrical Board. These are two (2) separate contracting licenses.

\*\* **Example:** John Doe under XYZ Electric will be performing electrical work in North Dakota and anticipates each job exceeding \$4,000.

**First Step:** Register business with the SOS = XYZ Electric, Inc.

**Second Step:** Register business contractor license with SOS = XYZ Electric, Inc.

**Third Step:** Register John Doe as contracting Master with NDSEB.

#### Next step is:

North Dakota State Electrical Board (NDSEB) Orientation: In addition to the individual becoming a contracting Master or Class B, an owner or responsible representative will also need to attend orientation (the representative who signs the Application for Electrical Contracting is assumed to attend).

Orientation includes, but not limited to:

- An administrative rules review, which includes group participation in questions and answers.
- e-Cert instructions / preview.
- District map handout/explanation.
- NDSEB legal paperwork review / completion.

\*\* NDSEB legal forms will need to conform to the business contractor license name or trade name/business registration if not registered as a contractor.

**SPRING TIME FLOODING:** Please be aware of the ND State Electrical Board Laws, Rules and Wiring Standards of North Dakota articles regarding water damaged electrical equipment.

### 24.1-06-01-20. Water damaged electrical equipment.

Water-damaged electrical equipment wiring and equipment exposed to water damage shall comply with the following:

1. All breaker panel boards, breakers, fuses, disconnect switches, controllers, receptacles, switches, light fixtures, and electric heaters that have been submerged or exposed to water damage shall be replaced or all electrical equipment, switchgear, motor control centers, boilers and boiler controls, electric motors, transformers, and other similar equipment such as appliances, water heaters, dishwashers, ovens, and ranges that have been submerged shall be reconditioned by the original manufacturer or by its approved representative or replaced.
2. Electrical wiring may require replacement depending on the type of wire or cable and what application it was listed for.
3. Splices and terminations shall be checked to make sure they comply with article 110.14, 2017 edition, National Electrical Code.
4. Energized electrical panels that have been submerged need to be de-energized to prevent loss of life and property.

Other recommendations can be found in "Guidelines for Handling Water Damaged Electrical Equipment" published by the national electrical manufacturers association (NEMA).

## ND Electrical Industry Earns A+ Rating Again

Mike Holt of Mike Holt Enterprises has once again ranked the states according to their mandated electrical standards. North Dakota is one of only 10 states to earn an “A+” rating. North Dakota has earned an “A” rating for the last 5 years, with 4 of the last 5 years earning an “A+”.

The criteria required at the state level to earn points in Holt’s ranking include:

- Having the NEC edition adopted
- Requiring licensing and/or certification for Apprentice, Journeyman, Master/Contractor, Inspector, and Engineer licenses, and
- Requiring Continuing Education for license renewal.

Holt has worked in the electrical industry since the 1970s and has devoted his career to studying, researching and understanding the NEC. He is an author, educator, and is considered a code expert. ☺

We always encourage your input on electrical happenings in North Dakota, so if you have questions or comments please send an email or give us a call!

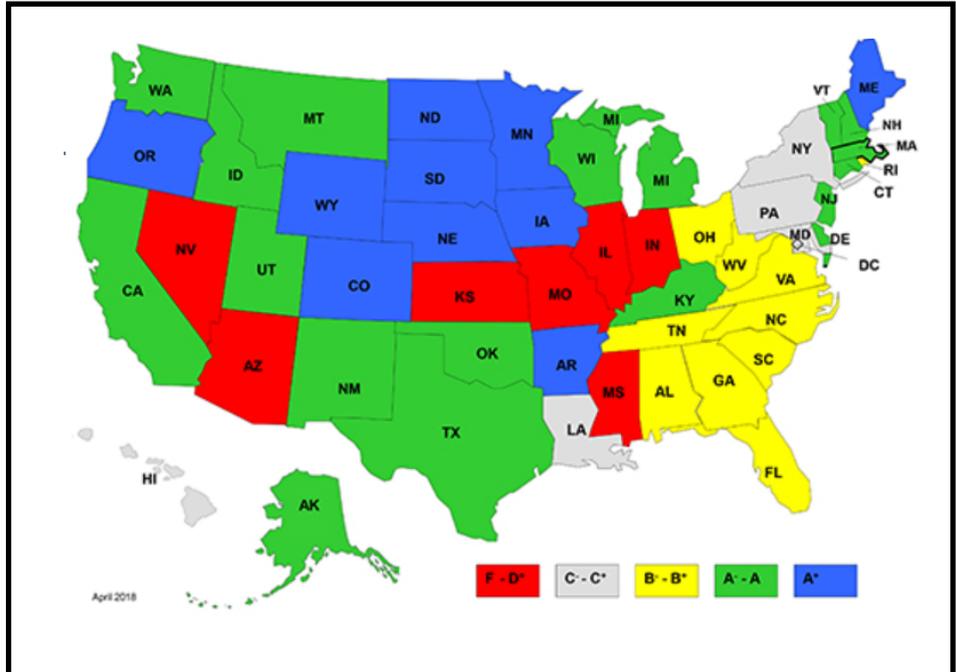
Check out our website for new information: <https://www.ndseb.com/>

Email at: [electric@nd.gov](mailto:electric@nd.gov) or

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*Ten states received “A+” ratings from Mike Holt for their electrical standards in 2018, as shown on the map above.*